

## **ENCLOSURE**

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMS  
EARLY AND PERIODIC SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT  
(EPSDT)  
SUPPLEMENTAL ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG (AOD) COUNSELING  
SERVICES  
Effective November 1, 1997**

- EPSDT supplemental AOD counseling are being added as an EPSDT supplemental benefit effective November 1, 1997. These services have been identified as supplemental individual ODF counseling other than the individual counseling services included in the ODF modality, which are: intake (including evaluation, assessment, and diagnosis), crisis intervention, collateral services, and treatment and discharge planning.
- Any Medi-Cal beneficiary under the age of 21 with unrestricted Medi-Cal coverage (i.e., EPSDT-eligible) who has been admitted to a Drug Medi-Cal (D/MC) certified ODF program is eligible for the supplemental benefit.
- Individuals under the age of 21 who are approved for limited services under the Minor Consent program are not eligible for any EPSDT supplemental services, including the supplemental individual ODF counseling services.
- Only D/MC providers certified for the ODF component may provide these supplemental individual ODF counseling services to EPSDT-eligible individuals.
- Current ODF providers will automatically be enrolled by DHS as EPSDT supplemental providers. There are currently 391 ODF providers statewide. ODF providers certified after the one-time enrollment will be enrolled by DHS on an individual basis.
- Prior authorization for each supplemental service using DHS' Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) process will be required for each service and will be reviewed by DHS.
- Any supplemental service submitted to the DHS TAR Committee for prior approval must be within the provider's authorized scope of practice, must not be included in the D/MC ODF all-inclusive rates, and must meet the appropriate EPSDT medical necessity criteria set forth in statutes and regulations. The TAR Committee will carefully screen those requests and may request additional information before approving or denying the service.

- Although provided by a D/MC certified ODF provider, claims for the supplemental ODF counseling will be processed and paid by the Medi-Cal fee-for-service (FFS) claiming system rather than the Short-Doyle D/MC system. ODF providers will submit supplemental claims to the Medi-Cal fiscal intermediary, Electronic Data Systems (EDS), rather than to the Fiscal Management Branch, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP).
- Training on the FFS claiming process and how to complete a TAR will be provided by DHS and EDS. You will be notified of the training schedule in the very near future.
- The HCFA<sup>(1)</sup> Common Procedure Coding system (HCPCS) code Z5850 has been assigned for billing the EPSDT supplemental individual ODF counseling services.
- The rates for supplemental ODF individual counseling are:  
  - \$14.60 per one-half hour
  - \$29.20 per hour
  - \$43.80 per one and one-half hour (maximum per day)
- Claims for sessions exceeding one and one-half hours will not be approved.
- The number of supplemental individual counseling sessions approved will be determined by the TAR Committee based on the provider's recommendation and documentation of medical necessity.
- Any other services approved by the TAR Committee shall be reimbursed at the fee-for-service rate allowed in Title 22 regulations.
- Funds to cover the program costs of these services have been added to DHS' 1997-98 budget. After the first year, funds for these services will be included in DHS' base.
- A system to identify duplicate claims paid by both the FFS and Short-Doyle D/MC payment systems will be developed by DHS and ADP.